

Luke: Journey to Jerusalem

“Jesus’ Invitation to More”

Luke 5: 1-11, 27-32; 6: 12-16

Thoughts to Shape and Spark Discussion:

“Ministry is not first about telling people what to do, but about telling them who they are, so that obedience will flow out of celebration.” - Paul David Tripp

“There is tremendous relief in knowing that his love to me is utterly realistic, based at every point on prior knowledge of the worst about me, so that no discovery now can disillusion him about me, in the way I am so often disillusioned about myself, and quench his determination to bless me.” - JI Packer

“The Christian life, far from transforming us into super-spiritual, quasi-angelic beings, is actually a quest to recover our true humanity.” - Michael Wittmer

Themes and Questions to Guide Reflection and Response:

- What from the Scripture passage or the sermon made an impression upon you? Do you have unanswered questions about the passage?
- What is God showing you about Himself and yourself in this passage?
- This passage draws upon the deep longings in our hearts and lives.
 - What seem to be the longings represented by the crowds, by Simon and his associates, by Levi, and by the Pharisees?
 - Which people do you identify with the most? Which longings resonate with you and your heart?
- What are some different conceptions of discipleship and their consequences?
- What is the hope and demand of discipleship as extending the ministry of Jesus?
 - How does such a view connect with “every member ministry” defined in passages like Ephesians 4? How does such a view combat the “leave it to the religious pros” sort of mentality?
- The issue that needed to be settled in Peter’s heart before he left everything and followed Jesus was that of functional trust and authority (Luke 5: 4-5).
 - What is the distinction between submitting to Jesus as a “teacher” and submitting to Jesus as “Lord”?
 - What was the cost of discipleship for Peter and the others at a heart level?
 - What was the cost of discipleship for Peter and the others on a very practical level?
 - How are you counting the cost yourself?
- What does the miracle of abundance communicate to Peter at the outlet of his discipleship?
- Why do you think that Jesus does not honor Peter’s ultimatum to depart from him?
- How does Jesus’ commitment to failing, broken, slow-to-learn sinners encourage you? Why is his long-term view of growth for disciples crucial and sweet?
- What does Jesus’ insistence that he came to call sinners and not the righteous mean for the church and discipleship?